

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 280 469

IR 051 828

TITLE IFLA General Conference, 1986. LIBER. Papers.
INSTITUTION International Federation of Library Associations and
Institutions, The Hague (Netherlands).
PUB DATE Aug 86
NOTE 40p.; Papers presented at the International
Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) General
Conference (52nd, Tokyo, Japan, August 24-30,
1986).
PUB TYPE Speeches/Conference Papers (150)
EDRS PRICE MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Asian Studies; Catalogs; Developed Nations; Foreign
Countries; International Organizations; Library
Associations; *Library Collection Development;
*Library Collections
IDENTIFIERS *Far East; Sweden; United Kingdom; West Germany

ABSTRACT

Three papers on special book collections were presented at the 1986 IFLA general conference. They include: (1) "Far Eastern Collections in the United Kingdom" (B. C. Bloomfield, United Kingdom), which discusses the background of Eastern Studies in the United Kingdom (UK) and the coordination of library provision for Far Eastern materials, and provides a brief survey of the major Far Eastern library collections in the UK; (2) "Ostasiatiska Biblioteket--The Far Eastern Library of Sweden" (Lars E. Fredriksson, Sweden), which discusses the development of the Ostasiatiska Biblioteket collections, the first acquisitions of Far Eastern material and the development of Far Eastern Studies in Sweden, problems of institutions not devoted solely to Far Eastern material; problems of specialized libraries; and suggestions for the future, international library associations, and automation; and (3) "Far Eastern Collections in the Libraries of the Federal Republic of Germany" (Helga Dressler, West Germany), which describes current efforts to improve acquisition of and access to East Asian materials, including the compilation of a central catalog for East Asian materials and the improvement of book and periodical distribution at the national and international levels. (KM)

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IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, TOKYO 1986

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Section: LIBER

155-LIBER-1-E

Far Eastern collections in the United Kingdom

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KEYWORD(S):

Libraries - United Kingdom
Asian studies

For internal use only:

To be brought to meeting no:

93

Remarks:

to be presented orally



for distribution only



2168

FAR EASTERN COLLECTIONS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

The United Kingdom has a well-developed library system serving academic, industrial and ordinary users. Its libraries contain many important individual items and collections of printed books and manuscripts relating to and originating from Africa, Asia and America, but it should be remembered that some of these arise from the former colonial and imperial past; for example, the collections in the India Office Library and Records are approximately twice the size of those relating to all Asia in the Department of Oriental Manuscripts and Printed books, both now departments of the British Library. Since the United Kingdom had no colonies in the Far East and its trading connections were not so extensive as those with other parts of the world, it is not so surprising that Far Eastern collections in British Libraries are less extensive and important than those for some other areas of the world.

The major collections of books and manuscripts are to be found in national and academic libraries, and the larger universities are the centres for Far Eastern studies within the country. Teaching in Chinese was offered in Oxford, Cambridge and London universities during the nineteenth century, but more formal arrangements were only made after the founding of the School of Oriental Studies in London in January 1917 following the report of the Reay Committee in December 1908. Matters rested thus until the Second World War when the outbreak of hostilities with Japan revealed a great lack of competent Japanese speakers. A war-time crash programme of training resulted, based on the School of Oriental and African Studies, and many persons were trained in Japanese and Chinese. At the end of that war a government committee under the chairmanship of Lord Scarbrough produced a report in 1947 which recommended a great expansion in the teaching of Oriental, Slavonic, East European and African studies (including the languages of these areas) and, as a result, Chinese and Japanese studies were

started in other universities in the United Kingdom. But these studies were mainly classical in character and while many more teaching posts were created and many students were recruited by scholarships, no mention was made of the library facilities necessary to support those studies.

The Scarbrough report was followed by the report of another committee under the chairmanship of Sir William Hayter. This recommended a further expansion of Oriental, East European, Slavonic and African studies, but emphasised that any further progress should be concentrated on modern social science subjects and the living, as opposed to the classical, languages. The government provided a great deal of money to implement its recommendations, and the report is the first to contain a chapter on libraries and to make proposals for their development. The report appeared in 1961 and most British libraries with Oriental collections grew very rapidly indeed in the years 1961 to 1980 - many almost doubling in size. Chinese and Japanese studies benefited particularly as those countries were perceived to be of increasing political and economic importance. Korean language teaching and Korean studies attained importance at the time of the Korean War and subsequently, owing to the increasing economic importance of the Republic of Korea and its policy of promoting library development in Korean studies. Universities in the United Kingdom began to suffer cuts in funding from 1980 and these cuts, increasingly severe, have reduced financial support for Asian studies. However the supervising government agency, the University Grants Committee, worried at the possible decline of these studies commissioned another report by Sir Peter Parker, former Chairman of British Rail, and this report (part 1 of which has just been completed and submitted in February 1986) recommends that renewed central government support should be given to Far Eastern language study in particular. ¹

So much for the background to Far Eastern studies in the United Kingdom, let us turn to the situation in the library world. Co-ordination in library provision for Far Eastern materials is informal and not regulated or directed by the

central government. Each library or university is free to decide what to collect, keep and make available. But the librarians themselves have banded together to collaborate and make the best use of scarce purchasing resources for the benefit of users. The Standing Committee of National and University Libraries (SCONUL) established a network of advisory committees to co-ordinate library interests throughout the United Kingdom. It has a special Advisory Committee on Oriental Materials that meets regularly three times a year and contains representatives from major libraries concerned with Oriental collections. The annual meeting, traditionally held early in each New Year, is normally attended by 30-60 people and acts as a forum for discussion of important questions and policy co-ordination. The proceedings have been published each year since 1974 and are preceded by four rather more occasional publications the first dating from 1967.² The SCONUL committee in its earlier days in conjunction with the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and following on the recommendations of the Hayter report backed the establishment in SOAS of the Union catalogue of Asian publications, edited by D.E. Hall (4 volumes. London, Mansell, 1971; first supplement, London, Mansell, 1973.) The catalogue was intended to fulfil the functions of providing locations for inter-library loans and also provide co-operative cataloguing data. This second function was never really operative and the union catalogue was suspended in 1985 when financial support from the British Library was withdrawn.

The annual forum is attended by representatives of a number of regional library groups who submit a brief annual report, although they are quite independent and have no actual connection with SCONUL. Three concern us: the China Library Group, the Japan Library Group and the Korean Library Group. All three groups have similar constitutions which state that they exist to promote and discuss matters of common interests to British libraries with holdings of their material. Meetings, seminars and other conferences are held and joint projects of bibliographical co-operation, union lists, co-operative purchase, etc. are often carried through. Policy on national provision is also considered as well as matters affecting straightforward library matters such as cataloguing, binding, and so on. Each group usually meets twice a year, or as necessary, and meetings are open to librarians and scholars.

The China Library Group was founded in February 1968 at a meeting in Cambridge University Library, but was re-constituted in October 1976 since when it has met regularly. It has been responsible for the publication of the Handlist of Chinese periodicals in British libraries, no 4 (1972), A bibliography of Chinese newspapers and periodicals in European libraries:

interim supplement...British libraries, 1972-1977 (1978), Andrew Morton's Union list of Chinese local histories in British libraries (1978) and the Current Chinese periodicals list regularly up-dated by the British Library (BL) as the 'China Library Group union list', and maintained in computerised form.

The Japan Library Group was formed in Sheffield in October 1967 and attended by many librarians and academics. Since that time the group has met regularly and has sponsored publication of a Checklist of Japanese periodicals held in British universities and research libraries (2 vols. 1968), a Newsletter, a second edition of its Checklist (1977), A union list of Japanese local histories ... (1981), and has maintained with the financial backing of the Japan Foundation Endowment Fund an economical and successful co-operative purchase scheme under which the main libraries co-operate to see that at least one copy of every important Japanese book is bought by a library in the United Kingdom.

The Korean Library Group was founded in 1982 and has met regularly since then although it has not so far published or sponsored any publications. Its discussions have resulted in greater collaboration between libraries and discussion of topics of common interest. A union list of Korean periodicals is projected, but the directory of libraries was produced by the Association for Korean Studies in Europe.³ The Korean Library Group works closely with this association and with the Japan Library Group.

Thus, through these unofficial consultative groups Far Eastern library provision in the United Kingdom is co-ordinated and the best use made of scarce resources to benefit readers.

The general library provision for Asian studies in the United Kingdom was described in an article in the Journal of librarianship⁴ in 1976; since that time the situation has deteriorated owing to severe financial cuts in the government funding of universities, a reduction in the number of teachers and students following these subjects, and a consequent reduction in the amount of money spent on libraries. (To some extent these changes were surveyed in my article 'Asian studies in libraries', Asian affairs, XII, June 1981, 178-80). The picture today is one of gradual decline rather than improvement. However let us turn to a brief survey of the major library collections in the United Kingdom.

The largest collections are to be found in the British Library itself, the national collection. The collections have grown steadily since the foundation of the British Museum and its library and contain the principal works on the Far East in English and most foreign languages. English language works published in the United Kingdom are acquired by copyright deposit. The major collections of works published in Chinese, Japanese and Korean are to be found in the Department of Oriental Manuscripts and Printed Books. There are about 93,000 volumes in Chinese (including 1,000 Mongolian volumes), 35,000 volumes in Japanese and 4,000 volumes in Korean. Current additions are numerous: those in Chinese and Korean mainly by exchange, but Japanese books are generally purchased. Current Chinese, Japanese and Korean periodicals are acquired. These include commercial and official titles.

Government and official publications are usually acquired by exchange with similar British publications. The collections are strong in the humanities and social sciences. The Document Supply Centre at Boston Spa is mainly occupied with library interlending and takes many Chinese scientific and technical periodicals, and some titles in Japanese, although most scientific Japanese periodicals are held in the Science Reference and Information Service

in London. A small collection of older Chinese books is held in the India Office Library and Records (now administered by the British Library) which also holds a major collection of archival records dealing with British contact with China and Japan, mainly through the commercial trading activities of the East India Company (1600-1858).

The Chinese collections also hold about 600 manuscripts plus the major deposits (tens of thousands) in the Dunhuang/Stein collection. Parallel material for Tibetan, Sanskrit, etc. from the same source is deposited in the India Office Library and Records. The Japanese collections are especially strong in older printed and illustrated books, many of which are unique. The Korean collections are mainly of current or recently published books, although there are some older published works. One initiative worth mention is the publication of a Manchu books in London: a union catalogue ... by Walter Simon and H.G. Nelson (London, British Museum, 1977).⁵

The second most important library for Far Eastern studies is that of the School of Oriental and African Studies in the University of London. This collection contains about 100,000 volumes in Chinese; 60,000 volumes in Japanese; and 5,000 volumes in Korean. The library is designed on open access lines and there are specialist reading rooms for Chinese and for Japanese/Korean which contain the more important reference and bibliographical works for ease of consultation. Almost all periodicals too are available on open access and this can save a great deal of time for users. There are extensive runs of microfilm sets of serials in Chinese, Japanese local government documents, and many other important and significant sets. The library lends through the national and international lending system and is the 'back-up' library for the national library through the Document Supply Centre (formerly Lending Division) at Boston Spa. There are few manuscripts of interest in the collections, but the archival collections include those of

the Council on World Mission comprising the papers of the London Missionary Society, the China Inland Mission, papers relating to the pioneer missionary Robert Morrison, etc. These provide an extremely valuable source for the history of nineteenth century China, and the first half of the twentieth century. There are also several collections of papers from former British members of the Imperial Maritime Customs, including letters of Sir Robert Hart to his agent in London. These papers are open and can be consulted. The deposited papers of John Swire and Sons Limited are also available and can be consulted by permission; there is a published catalogue by Elizabeth Hook. The library also contains sizeable collections of European historical works relating to the Far East, including travellers' narratives, and tries to acquire all modern important works of scholarship. It is probably the most convenient library for Far Eastern scholars to use in the United Kingdom.⁶

Next in size and importance are the collections at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The collections at Oxford are housed in the Bodleian Library in the care of the keeper of Oriental Books, Mr A D S Roberts, and comprise some 50,000 Chinese volumes; 35,000 Japanese volumes; and 4,000 volumes of Korean material. Files of about 1,000 Chinese periodicals, with 450 current titles; 360 current Japanese periodicals; and 60 current Korean periodicals are maintained and acquisitions are made to all three collections by purchase and by gift. Exchange is also used with a number of institutions and other bodies in all countries. There are published catalogues of the older collections. Users from outside the university with a letter of recommendation are admitted on payment of a fee and the issuing of a ticket. Material is lent through the national inter-library lending system. There are also Far Eastern language books in the Oriental Institute Library, another part of the University, but these books are mainly those used for teaching within the university and research materials are not duplicated, as the library staff consult and co-operate in

acquisitions. Some small collections of books also exist in other institutions and colleges within the university. The Bodleian Library also acquires automatically by copyright deposit English language items relating to the Far East published in the United Kingdom so the supporting collections for research are extensive and well-maintained. There are some manuscript collections of interest to Far Eastern scholars including some material mainly relating to Central Asia from the Stein collections, the major parts of which are deposited in the British Library.

Cambridge University Library also has significant collections of Far Eastern material including about 62,500 volumes of Chinese language books; 62,000 of Japanese language books; and 2,600 volumes of Korean material. (The former librarian, Mr E B Ceadel, was once university lecturer in Japanese!). There are about 500 files of Chinese periodicals, of which perhaps 280 are current titles; 300 files of Japanese periodicals; and 20 files of Korean serials.

Material is currently acquired by gift, purchase and exchange and now that the university has re-assessed its commitment to Oriental studies, the library collections can be expected to maintain their previous steady growth. There is a separate collection of teaching books in the library of the Faculty of Oriental Studies, but this overlaps little with the collections in the main university library. There are strong collections of historical material from the libraries of famous Sinologists, and the Aston collection of older Japanese books; the collections are convenient to use and well-catalogued. The library lends through the national inter-library lending system and, as a library of copyright deposit, automatically acquires like the Bodleian Library, a copy of every English language book published in the United Kingdom dealing with Far Eastern subjects. Outside readers are admitted on payment of a small fee and the issuing of a ticket which permits access, but not borrowing.

There are small collections of significant material relating to Far Eastern studies in the libraries of Edinburgh, Durham, Leeds, and Sheffield. The three first named having material relating to the whole of the Far East, while the last deals only with Japan and Korea. Brief details of their holdings are as follows:-

	Durham	Edinburgh	Leeds	Sheffield
Chinese volumes	40,000	50,000	40,000	N/A
Current pers.	150	250	350	N/A
Japanese volumes	8,000	500	1,000	18,000
Current pers.	20	N/A	15	70
Korean volumes	2,000	N/A	100	5,500
Current pers.	N/A	N/A	N/A	2

There is a small specialised library of Chinese art and archaeology in the Percival David Foundation administered by the University of London and SOAS.

While the development of Far Eastern studies in the universities can be expected to be influenced by the recommendations of the Parker report, it is likely that the basic pattern of library provision for those studies will remain much as they are now, although some of the smaller collections may be put into cold storage if teaching stops in their parent institutions. There is one other major library which should be mentioned though outside these academic bodies and that is the library of the Royal Asiatic Society. The major part of its Far Eastern collections was deposited at the School of Oriental and African Studies and then transferred to the library of Leeds University when its Far Eastern teaching courses began, but it still possesses material of interest. There is a published catalogue of its holdings and access to the library is given to serious scholars usually on payment of a small fee.

Turning to archival and manuscript sources the Public Record Office, the central archival repository of the United Kingdom, has all the official records relating to British diplomatic contact with the Far East (except those in the India Office Library and Records) from the beginning up-to-date. (There is a 30 year period of closure for most current official records). There is a modern search room for readers at Kew and the retrieval and recall system is completely automated. Two collections of particular interest are the papers of the diplomatic posts in China and an almost complete Chinese provincial archive captured by the British after the 'Arrow' war and brought home to the United Kingdom. A guide to this archive has been published.⁷

A general guide to archival material relating to the Far East can be found in Noel Matthews and M. Doreen Wainwright's A guide to manuscripts and documents in the British Isles relating to the Far East (London, Oxford University press, 1977) edited by Professor J D Pearson. Professor Pearson is also author of Oriental manuscripts in Europe and North America (Zug, Inter Documentation Company AG, 1971) which gives a conspectus of Chinese, Japanese and Korean manuscripts in all the major libraries in the United Kingdom. Scholars intending to undertake research in British libraries from original resources would be well advised to consult both these works at the outset of their studies.

This brief overview of library resources for Far Eastern studies in the United Kingdom is far too short and can only serve as an introduction to the topic. Tibetan, Mongolian, Manchu and other less important languages have largely been ignored in favour of the 'big battalions' of Chinese, Japanese and Korean, for which I apologise in advance. The short notice allowed for compilation has also prevented the verification of all the library statistics, but many can be checked in John T Ma's Chinese collections in western Europe (Zug, Inter Documentation Company AG, 1985).

NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. The best study of the background is to be found in Asian and African collections in British libraries - problems and prospects, by Anne J. Benewick (Stevenage, Peter Peregrinus Limited, 1974).
2. The references are as follows:- Conference on the acquisition of library materials from Asia, 30 June 1967. Report. (London, SOAS, 1967); -----, 1 July 1968. Report. (London, SOAS, 1968); -----, 11 July 1969. Report. (London, SCONUL Sub-Committee of Orientalist libraries, 1969); SCONUL Group of Orientalist Libraries. Newsletter of library developments, London, 1970; SCONUL Group of Orientalist Libraries (later SCONUL Advisory Committee on Orientalist Materials). Report of the annual conference, 1974 - . Annual, to date.
3. Library resources for Korean studies in Europe, by B.C. Bloomfield and Brian Hickman. Preliminary edition. (London, SOAS, 1978) was later partially up-dated by J.M. Bunn in the Association for Korean Studies in Europe Newsletter, no.3, November 1979.
4. B.C. Bloomfield. Notes on library provision for Oriental and Asian studies in Great Britain. Journal of librarianship, VIII, 2 (April 1976), 111-121.
5. A fuller description is available, although slightly dated, in H.J. Goodacre and A.P. Pritchard's Guide to the Department of Oriental Manuscripts and Printed books (London, British Museum publications, 1977).
6. For a convenient summary of information see successive editions of the School of Oriental and African Studies. Library guide. The latest edition available is the 4th dated 1980.
7. David Pong. Critical guide to the Kwantung provincial archives deposited at the Public Record office, London. Cambridge, Mass., Harvard University Press, 1976 (Harvard East Asian monographs).



1986

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, TOKYO

Division:

Section: LIBER

213-LIBER-2-E

Ostasiatiska Biblioteket - The Far Eastern Library of Sweden

by

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KEYWORD (S):

For internal use only:

To be brought to meeting no:

93

Remarks:

to be presented orally ☒

for distribution only ☐

5087

Far Eastern book-collections in Scandinavia

- 1.1 Aim & structure of this paper
- 1.2 (what is printed in *Liber* & and what is said at the conference)
- 2.1 The Far Eastern Library of Sweden Östasiatiska Biblioteket - origins of the collections, how they were merged and goals for the future development.
- 2.2 Historical Background- Early contacts with the Far East and traces of the first printed Far Eastern material to arrive in Scandinavia.
- 2.3 The development of Far Eastern studies and the change of content in Far Eastern book-collections as a cause thereof
- 3.1 Problems of National Libraries, Museums and other institutions not solely devoted to Far Eastern material.
- 3.2 Problems of the specialized libraries.
- 3.3 Suggestions for the future.
- 4.1 On the importance of international library associations.
- 4.2 Automation from a national, European and international perspective.

1.1 Aim & Structure of this paper.

The aim of this paper is to give a general background of the development of Far Eastern book-collections in Scandinavia today as well as a brief description of the present situation. As many of you would have guessed the scene varies from country to country and a short report on the conditions of four different countries in Scandinavia has to be very sketchy and kept very general indeed. The scope of the report may seem ambitious. But I have included some more details in the printed version of my paper to be published in the *LIBER* bulletin on some of the topics that I here will touch upon only briefly.

In the first part I will present to you a recently formed new library in Stockholm, namely the Far Eastern Library which is the result of a merger of several collections, and may by its example suggest a possible solution for other nations where material may be scattered in many different libraries. I shall also try to describe the

common features as well as the differences of Far Eastern book-collections in Scandinavia and give a brief historical background.¹

In the second part I shall deal with some of the problems met by East Asian librarians in Scandinavia and Europe in general.

And in the final part I shall also touch upon the subject of automation and resource sharing and make some suggestions for the future development of the specialized Far Eastern collections.

1.2 (what is printed in Liber & and what is said at the conference)

2.1 The Far Eastern Library of Sweden

Östasiatiska Biblioteket - origins of the collections
how they were merged and goals for the future development.

In the beginning of this year a new Far Eastern Library library has been formed in Stockholm, under the directorship of the Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities. The library with the name "Östasiatiska Biblioteket" (The Far Eastern Library) is a result of the merger of Far Eastern Language material from the major Swedish collections namely the Royal Library collection, the Sinological Library collection of the Stockholm University Library and the collection of the Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities.

The building that houses the Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities is also the new location for this library. The building erected 1699 and finished the first years of 1700 is a very long stonehouse on Skeppsholmen a central island in the Stockholm archipelago. Earlier used by the Swedish navy it has a spartan atmosphere and a very beautiful location. The scenery around the island and the quiet nature adds to the attraction of the library and it has already become a very popular institution with the Swedish researchers. Plans for this merger has been a long time coming and the initial work started for more than 18 years ago. It was the then National Librarian the professor of sinology and a group of specialists in the Far Eastern field who tried to develop a scheme to concentrate the collections in Stockholm around the many rare books collected by

¹ At this point I also like to make it clear that although I aim is to give a general description of Scandinavia as a whole I shall have to concentrate on the Swedish conditions that are more familiar to me and that all information on Danish, Norwegian and Finnish collections that have been acquired during our joint effort to create a union catalogue for Scandinavian Far Eastern material will be included only where it is typical and differs from the general.

the late king of Sweden king Gustav VI Adolf² who's strong interest in Far Eastern archeology history and art has had a strong impact on the development of Far Eastern studies in Sweden and has provided an important foundation for support.

Around the late king of Sweden, who was an early member of the Swedish China committee, many good scientists gathered and found support for their projects. Among them, to mention but a few were Prof. Bernard Karlgren, Dr. Orvar Karlbeck and Prof. Johan Gunnar Andersson.

The plans for a new library has had many ups and downs over the years and to our relief and great joy the idea of a Far Eastern Library has finally materialised itself.

Apart from the books collected by king Gustav VI Adolf that include several old prints among them a dharani sutra printed A.D. 956 are books in many various fields.

The collection is particularly strong in archeology, history of art and philology, most of the books inherited from the Far Eastern museum library are of this kind.

From the Royal library there was a large collection of Chinese "congshu" as well as large quantity of "difangzhi" and a very fine collection of Japanese literature bought in Japan from collectors and antiquarian book-dealers in the late 19th century, most of the Korean books also came from this library.

The main contribution from the sinological Library of Stockholm University are the large collections of Chinese periodicals many that are unique in Europe and several hundreds not found outside the countries of origin. Worth mentioning is also a strong collection of contemporary Chinese literature with more first editions found than in any other European library.

To the founding of the new library we were also fortunate to receive one set of the facsimile edition from Taiwan of the large Qing dynasty palacemanuscript "Siku Quanshu" from Wenyuange containing more than 3400 different works. The new library is also planned to include several other minor collections from different institutions in the near future.

We now hope to continue to build our new library making it stronger in the fields of Japanology and Koreanology. For the first time we are able to get an overall view of what has already been collected in Sweden and to catalogue this huge amount of literature in a uniform way. And for the first time we can plan our future acquisitions wasting less time and effort, and collect less duplicates.

²

The working name for the library was then King Gustav VI Adolfs' Memorial Library for Far Eastern Research.

(Something on CINA, and the Research Policy Institute in Lund is to be included here in the printed version.)

2.2 Historical Background - Early contacts with the Far East and traces of the first printed Far Eastern material to arrive in Scandinavia.

I like to present to you some of the origins of these collections. First I must point out the importance of Ostindiska Compagniet (The Swedish East India Company) (and their scandinavian counterparts) the fleet of merchants whose contacts with China grew more and more intense in the earlier part of the 18th century³. The first years of trade were mostly directed towards Canton. At the courts in Europe there was a craze for everything oriental and especially for things Chinese. The Scandinavian Courts were no exception and in Sweden several summerhouses of the nobility were built in Chinese style and the royal family even ventured to speak some kind of homebrewed "Chinese" at special Chinese tea-parties held in these houses.

It is easy to see how the first books presented to the court were purchased with no other intent than to satisfy this mere curiosity of things oriental. This is also evident from several of the colophones and small notes on scraps of paper in the books themselves. To give but one example of this I quote from the cover of one of the books presented to the court, possibly to the Queen Lovisa Ulrika of Sweden (1720-1782), whose special pleasure it was to collect and leaf through the exotic volumes from China that were to form the earliest part of the "Litt. East. Chinese." when it was later moved to the Royal Library of Sweden.

(I quote)

"This Chinese book is presented to the court by the Secretary Westman who did not know what its content was. And Nils Westman Stockholm 1750!"⁴

Maybe the first exception to this mere curiosity was the Swedish botanist Carl von Linné who kept close contact with some of the supercargoes whose main responsibility it was to make "scientific

³ The first Swedish expedition to Canton started 1732.

⁴ Tr from Swedish: "Denne Chinesiske Bok är skänkt af Secret Westman som ej visste hvad den innehöll. Och Nils Westman Stockholm 1750"

notes" and report on things encountered en route and of the progress of the journeys.

It is clear that Linné acquired many plants and seeds in this way and that he was interested in the Chinese *materis medicae* the "Bencao gangmu". And there are also early references of course to painters manuals like the "Mustard seed garden manual" the "Jieziyuan" and similar works more easily appreciated by the people who were incapable to read any original language material and for whom the visual arts supplied the first material to allow an interpretation of the contents of Asian culture. From the large amount of astrology and horoscopes it seems evident that there also must have been a great interest in the Chinese soothsaying and calendars in general.

Very few of the books are of good quality and most of them are in fact cheap prints on poor paper often the "schoolbook editions" of the classics and other wellknown texts. Most of them are traditional titles collected everywhere but we do also find some more interesting and scarce popular novels as well as libretti to popular operas and other kind of popular literature that was circulated in Canton at that time.

These early acquisitions seem to have been neglected for a long time both by the Chinese and the Europeans mostly due to the complications caused by the languages, but also to their status in the world of learning.

Many notes in early catalogues bear witness of the cataloguers hardships and difficulties to deal with this "different" material. The Swedish author August Strindberg was in his youth one of the first to struggle with this Chinese language material. His interest in the Chinese language developed from a necessity, as he puts it, "to acquire a speciality, that he could master with superiority, and that none of the other clerks at the Royal Library could master". It is very doubtful if Strindberg ever learned enough Chinese to manage on his own and it seems very possible that he had help from at least one of the several Swedish missionaries then living in China with whom he corresponded. After what seems to have been an attempt to catalogue with the help of the early dictionaries to French English and German there remains only a very fragmentary manuscript by his hand and the sparse information therein gives evidence of his battles trying to confirm names of authors and titles of books.

It is also evident that Strindberg was not the only one who had difficulties to determine similar information. Often one finds place and date of imprint hidden in forewords of books, if at all

indicated! This is something that can certainly be confirmed by many colleague librarians all over the world, and from another very touching passage that can be culled from a manuscript by his successor Mr Harald Swanberg⁵, who when writing the following at the turn of this century, seems almost in despair when he in the "Instructions for useage" to his manuscript catalogue "Litt. East. Chinese" expounds on the travail dealing with the Chinese language:

I quote:

"The peculiarity by the Chinese language to abruptly add character to character does in some cases make it hazardous to determine if a name is the name of a work (title), author, 'publisher' or of a place.... and as an addition to that is the scantiness and obscureness of the booktitles." ⁶

There are also many inscriptions and colophones to remind one of the extensive help given to the librarians by missionaries and other laymen. But not always were the knowledgeable of deep insight and sometimes the explanations are apart from not being to the point also inscribed upside down at the end of the books.⁷

⁵ Mr Harald Swanberg who studied in China in the beginning of this century created sometime in the 1920ies the first catalogue of any substance of the old collection in the Royal Library of Sweden.

⁶ To the more typical of the texts one can not avoid to count the forewords, which are the more numerous the more prestige the book has. This kind of forewords are indeed not written in Europe. With their allusions to allusions, their hidden quotations and flowery figurative speech they form alongside the poetry the most complicated reading one can imagine as far as languages goes. Reading of this kind is a true punishment for once sins (the expression is that of a sinologist) that only the catalogue has to be subjected to, and he may soothe (comfort) himself with the Chinese rule: 'It is not necessary, in a translation, that word corresponds to word, the general course is the most important! It is improper of a language so imprecise to demand literal translations'

⁷ Let me continue to quote from a donor of Norwegian origin, Mr. Christian Hammer, a jeweller and big collector, whose comment on the Chinese language is found in one of the early translations of the new testament: 'The script of the Chinese is not executed in our way, with letters, but is a so called syllabic script, whereby we understand, that each character does not represent a simple sound, but a syllable; from this follows that their language is rather complicated, if not impossible to learn while it is estimated to contain more than 80 000 different shapes, each with its own pronunciation and meaning.'

There is a note on the Chinese language by C Toogood Downing that bears a slight resemblance to the one by Christian Hammer who may well have embroidered a little on his readings: "As at present written, the Chinese language appears composed of a vast number of words, variously estimated from 30.000 to 260.000 by different writers, and each having a character or symbol peculiar to itself..."

C Toogood Downing: 'The Fan-qui in China in 1836-7' vol 1-3, 1st ed., London 1838 (photolithographic ed.) by Irish Univ. Press, Shannon, Ireland, 1972. ISBN 0 71 2026 5 vol 17: p171

The collection kept growing at a very modest pace until the sinologue Bernhard Karlgren was appointed professor, first to Gothenburg and later to Stockholm in the 1920 ies started to build good collections both of sinology and japanology, and alongside what was brought back by the merchants and the contributions by the early missionaries there were only isolated small donations.⁸

2.3 The development of Far Eastern studies and the change of content in Far Eastern book-collections as a cause thereof.

Not until the turn of the century, with the increased academic interest in the Far East as a result of the growing contact do we have any planned aquisition of Far Eastern-material. This was of course due to the fact that very few people knew or studied any of the languages. Although the first Swedish book aiming to be an instruction to the Chinese language was written in the mid 19th century and was neither finished nor published. The first real sinologue was Mr Bernhard Karlgren who in the early 1920' ies started to build up several book-collections in Sweden. The involvement by several Swedes in the geographical research in China led by V.K.Ting and some Scandinavians partaking in railroad construction and other construction works was also an important factor for the stimulation of academic studies via archeological findings. Several geologists, botanists, prospectors merchants and other adventurers crossed through China, Johan Gunnar Andersson, Erik Norin, Tegengren to mention some of the more outstanding, and the interest in the Far East by the botanists lived on from Linneaus well into this century.

Another important source was of course various explorers who made extended trips to remote areas in Asia and brought back with them material often of very high quality and importance to the researchers. There was the early travels of Ekeberg and Osbeck to China, Thunbergs botanical excursion to Japan as well as the Vega expedition by Nordenskiöld. The many important travels of Sven

⁸ There is a clear impact on the interest in the far east by the the different missionary activities in the F E' and some parts of the royal Library collection bear clear witness of that. Lots of correspondence with the missionaries and frequent use of dictionaries such as the Morrison; ...and the likes seems to have been the only way for the early cataloguers who obviously knew very little chinese japanese or korrean to get any idea of the contents of the books that first arrived from the countries of porcelain, tea and oranges.

Hedin who was accompanied by several other scientists of high quality and learning. There is even a spy to the Tsar well worth mentioning namely the Finnish Marshal Mannerheim who's photographic records are kept in an archive in Helsinki and which are of deserved repute, the collection of books by Mr Donner who secured many good volumes to Finland. In Denmark and Norway the situation is much the same as in Sweden and it is of course impossible to give a full account for the many individuals that contributed to make the scandinavian collections so rich of material in so many divergent (diverse?) fields.

3.1 Problems of National Libraries, Museums and other institutions not solely devoted to Far Eastern material.

Collections of Far Eastern material in Europe are often hidden or stepmotherly treated in larger collections or museums such as for example National Libraries or Ethnographic museums. Because of the limited number of books to reach the Scandinavian countries in the first period described earlier it was natural to include them in bigger collections and in fact many volumes are still today buried in National Libraries, University Libraries and museums where there is no active research.

There are several cases libraries of Universities where no instruction in Far Eastern-languages is given and where no research is in progress, that once collected large amounts of Far Eastern-material and where this valuable material today is hard to, if not impossible to obtain.

It is also still a fact that in many museums in Sweden today one can find old blockprinted books of Far Eastern origin with only an "object register N°" and a ledger description that says for example "one buddhist sutra in Chinese" or "prayer text from Korea" and of course, anyone the least bit familiar with the Buddhist tripitaka knows that this is simply not enough to know whether it is worth to go through all the complications to get a look at the text. If you have tried to get an object out of the closed museum stacks for observation you have certainly experienced the same frustration as I, and had you known at least the title you could have saved both your own and the staff's time.

In a national library with no separate catalogue for the Far Eastern Material and with no expressed acquisition policy to hint at subjects the library may be especially strong in, the Far Eastern-material is "drowned" in the huge catalogue and the researcher is often discouraged by the many blanks drawn when trying to find a book in a special field. Therefore the tendency is that although many valuable books are indeed in the collections they are never used. This is not good for a library of any nation but it is a true

catastrophy for a small nation with very limited finances for Far Eastern-material acquisitions.

3.2. Problems of the specialized libraries

The first researchers to take up Far Eastern-studies were quite naturally philologists who occupied themselves mainly with classical studies and archaeology.

It is a common feature of the book collections in Europe that they are strong in philology and linguistics. This is certainly the case in Scandinavia. Once the tools for digging safely into the ancient history of the Far East secured research in traditional history and literature it took form and has grown in step with the rapidly growing number of researchers.

Sinology was the first of the disciplines to build a sound foundation in many of the European major centers of learning and Sweden Denmark and Norway are no exception in this regard.

It was much later however, that Japanology in the late 1950ies followed in the footsteps and was in its first phase often regarded as an offspring to sinology. Koreanology being a new discipline in most of the Scandinavian countries also branched out from sinology and japanology and material is therefor very scarce. This situation is drastically reflected by the contents of the book-collections. Of the collections in Scandinavia it is safe to say that they are roughly divided in 80% sinology 15% japanology and 5% Koreanology. This is a crude figure but a fair reflection of the situation. It is also obvious that no thorough plan to build these collections were ever perceived and the collections are in most cases a combination of several professors' preferences and own specialities. They grew in lack or presence of foresight and as a result of coincidences. It is often a mishmash of very specialised collections and endless duplication of the basic reference tools, lacking many elementary and indeed necessary works of a broader scope. It is also evident that this can never be remedied without the pooling of resources and the establishment of information networks and shared bibliographical databases are built.

There is also another obvious drawback of the specialized libraries in small countries and that is the question of staff. There is no possibility with very limited staff to have the general scope and knowledge necessary for the acquisition that is needed to satisfy all scientific disciplines and certainly no way for each European nation to duplicate, say, the national efforts of Japan, China or Korea in each and every one of the many countries of Europe. The majority of the Scandinavian Far Eastern libraries are severely understaffed and that I think is the biggest problem. The rapidly growing field

of the Far Eastern Librarian is impossible to cover by one single person. There is no other field that I know of where lack of personnel resources are so flagrantly obvious, and I wonder how many of us are expected to be equally ready to answer questions on Tibetan, Arabic, Mongol, Chinese, Manchu, Japanese, Thai, Korean, Pali, Sanskrit language material.

3.3 Solutions & Suggestions for the future

The growing need for information on contemporary history, social science, economy technology of our times has to be responded to by the libraries and librarians. New research institutes are formed and the time when the Far Eastern material was regarded as mere curios is for always gone. The conservative status of, for example, a National Library is not always the ideal for the researcher who is in need of rapid service and often has to wait for months because of inefficient interlibrary loans until he can obtain the necessary sources.

The only way to develop the Far Eastern Libraries in Europe today is through a serious scheme aiming at true resource sharing between libraries and nations, as well as a carefully thought out plan for joint bibliographical control. Although this is an age-long desire and an often repeated suggestion, especially at conferences, it is never carried out in practice in any but a small scale based on informal good contacts between a few libraries.

It is fruitless to try to perceive an economically fair system for all Europe, but is certainly necessary for all the nations in Europe to start thinking in a more international way and realize that the lack of lets say a kind of *Library of Congress* in Europe would not be so hard felt if the resources were more efficiently used.

To engage in struggle over supposed complications and expected problems is totally fruitless.⁹ It seems that the same inventive intellectual capacities that are the necessary means to any progress of mankind in this case is the major obstruction. Inventive people often seem satisfied to have done a thorough work only when enough problems to stop any good project have been pointed out. I would like to recommend anyone present not to forget that problems are to be solved and the true inventiveness in the posing of questions should have the embryo of an answer contained in

⁹ This attitude sadly but certainly leads to the abortion of many good projects and because the people responsible to investigate the prerequisites for undertaking a major project often seem to ransack their brains to find all sorts of stumbling blocks, often imaginary, to have, as the key word seems to be, "preparedness", or believe themselves to have a high enough comprehension of the possible complications to make any brilliant idea a nonstarter.

them to be constructive and worthwhile asking. It is also good to remember, when discussing the finances with ones government representatives that the cost of maintaining ones library is a speck of dust compared to the money put aside for miscalculation of any of the larger companies and that the only longtime perspective to lasting peace and good relations with other nations is a deep understanding of the culture of ones fellow man and his national characteristics.¹⁰

4.1 On the importance of international library associations

The importance of information network systems and automation for Far Eastern book-collections can not be enough emphasized in the above light and the willingness to divide the responsibility for collecting materials in different fields and to make these available by means of interlibrary loan, is something that has to be solved with immediate readiness to look away from nationalism not to mention the sometimes encountered narrowminded parochialism. I'm fully aware of difference in organization of the libraries of different nations and that there are manifold motives and reasons to keep and maintain collections. But no one denies that the collections are kept up to support research and that the main goal should be service to the researchers, and since the golden words at any conference is "resource sharing", I have to mention that as far as the Far Eastern Research Libraries of Europe are concerned this remains to be accomplished.

An attempt in the early seventies to join the library forces in Scandinavia led to the preliminary title catalogues of the projected Union catalogue of East Asian Materials in Scandinavian Libraries initiated and edited by Mr Donald Blackmore Wagner and supervised and financed by the Scandinavian Institute of Asian Studies (CINA).

A microfiche-edition of the Japanese and Chinese title-cards of the holdings in most of the collections in Scandinavia up to the beginning of 1980, in their original apperance, but alphabetised with a new uniform Pinyin-transcription, was published in 1980.

¹⁰ Although this is often regarded as idealistic and emotional nonsense in any cross debate I like to keep it in mind when fighting for my budget.

Lacking the necessary financial support, the project of the Union catalogue was discontinued before completion, although the contributing libraries are still sending copies of all new catalogue-cards they are producing, there are no present plans to revive this project in the near future, but we hope that it shall be possible to resume work in automated form when there is an agreement as to which automation-system to adopt on a European scale.

One of the positive side-effects of the union catalogue project was that it stimulated contact between the Scandinavian Libraries and at present meetings of the Far Eastern Librarians are held every two years.

The importance of international contact in this field is impossible to express in full. We have a situation as Far Eastern librarians dealing with what is often considered a "narrow field" (it has often struck me that it would be nice to meet librarians in the East devoted to collections of scandinavian material to compare situations)

In Leiden 1981 a new library association, the European Association of Sinological Libraries (EASL) was formed at the initiative of Mr John T. Ma who invited colleagues from most of the European countries.

Mr Ma who is now retired was then librarian in the Sinological Institute of the University of Leiden and busy preparing his survey: "Chinese Collections in Western Europe" published last year. Although very limited in scope, this survey is the first of its kind to be published in Europe. It seems like a good idea that updated and vastly expanded editions of this survey, to include Japanese, Korean, Manchu, Mongol, Tibetan, Vietnamese and other asian languages should be given priority of a future European Far Eastern-librarian association. Such an association has yet to be formed to deal with the poor situation for researchers using material in these languages.

The present sinological librarians association has discussed the possibilities of a union catalogue of periodicals for the sinological bookcollections of Europe and members are to report on the preliminary work at this years meeting in Torino.

The yearly conferences also devote a section to reports on developement of automation for the Far Eastern language materials. This discussion was initiated and to a large degree inspired by Mr Howard Nelson of the British Library whose expertise in this question I have benefitted from in no small degree. Many of the following arguments I have from him.

4.2 Automation from a National, European & International perspective.

At the moment the basic issues for automation are these:
What are the advantages of automation for the European East Asian Libraries?

How can we explain to our computer-experts dealing with the national bibliography databases and the likes that the original Chinese Japanese and Korean script has to be included in an automated catalogue?

What are the difficulties in including original Far Eastern-languagescript?

There has been no survey made of the acquisitions of EA language books by European FE-libraries so far, but since the majority of them are expected to support research in the fields of humanities and social sciences, it is reasonable to assume that the same books are being bought and catalogued by many different libraries. The computer offers the possibility of sharing data between libraries and a single catalogue record therefore can serve the needs of several libraries. And with inter-library loan operating on a Europe-wide basis it will hopefully also mean that fewer copies of the books themselves will have to be bought provided the librarians can obtain information of their existence in other libraries.

Therefore the first advantages offered by automation is shared cataloguing, and shared catalogue data, the second is the possibility of derived cataloguing.

Furthermore since derived cataloguing is not possible at this moment and major problems of standardisation remains to be solved as well as the fact that the international use of MARC records produced by various national libraries is as much a goal in the field of Chinese Japanese and Korean as it is elsewhere we cannot ignore the development and progress made by different nations in East Asia and remain passive onwatchers merely waiting for a ready solution. It is also not true that a feasible inputmethod is likely to be developed either in China Japan or Korea that deals with all the languages and that takes into consideration the special requirements made by western, i.e. not native speakers, who would prefer a phonetic input using an ordinary QWERTY-keyboard. With an attitude like that it is simply not going to happen.

It was also for a long time impossible to convince people who were prepared to work in romanisation alone that they were in reality an hinderance for a fullscale automation. Everyone has heard the computerslang "garbage in garbage out" and this is indeed true if one will try to represent these languages in transcribed form alone. With a vocabulary virtually unlimited as is the case for a librarian in the humanities with a language like Chinese so full of homonymous words that ambiguity would appear in a majority of

the cases when someone would try to consult a catalogue in romanisation alone someone looking for blastfurnaces would have to take on all titles about railroads as well, someone looking for traditional medicine would have to deal with all the book titles that included the word "important" in its title and so forth. Fortunately it is but in a few places one still hears arguments in favor of transcription-only systems and rarely from anyone who specialises in any of the languages since it is likely to create at least as many problems as it solves. One certainly can not disregard the longtime perspective the eventual possibility of using original-script MARC records from the countries of the Far East that have a self-evident need to create systems for bibliographic data processing in their own languages and versions of the Chinese/Japanese script, and that have relatively little interest in mutual cooperation. Japan and Taiwan already have effective systems in operation. And although it is very slow coming the Peoples Republic of China has developed a kind of standard for information interchangeable charactercode. North America, which has the resources, as well as the political interest, to enhance existing bibliographic systems to encompass Chinese, Japanese and Korean (increasingly known simply as "CJK") as well, also has an overriding need to see the several countries of the Far East as a single entity, and to develop a system which takes an impartial view of all the incompatible standards emanating from the region. The Research Libraries Group (RLG), based in Stanford, California, has been the first in the field to bring such enhancement to fruition; and the On-Line Computer Library Center (OCLC), at Dublin, Ohio, threatens to offer an alternative in the near future. The rest of us - Far Eastern libraries in Europe, Australia, and possibly those on the fringe of the Chinese world in Southeast Asia and Hong Kong lack the impetus of Far Eastern countries, and the resources of North America, and no single country in Europe could, or should, pursue an independent development in this field. Not only should we pool knowledge and resources in Europe as a whole, if we are to make any progress, but we should share what knowledge we gain with colleagues in the Far East and it is my firm belief that we shall see tremendous progress in these fields in the very near future. The time when we can be on-line to the National Library of Japan, China and Korea is closing in on us.



IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, TOKYO

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LIBER

214-LIBER-3-E

Far Eastern collections in the libraries of the Federal
Republic of Germany

by

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KEYWORD (S):

For internal use only:

To be brought to meeting no:

93

Remarks:

to be presented orally ☒

for distribution only ☐

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5095

The history of the origin of Chinese, Japanese and Korean book collections kept in the Federal Republic of Germany, is at the same time a history of Germany's connections with East Asian countries and a history of the development of East Asian studies. Some of these collections date back as far as the 17th century, others have been founded only in recent years.

Size and content of these collections are as varied as the objectives causing their founding. They are primarily financed, directly or indirectly, by the government of the Federal Republic and its various states, but also by cities, associations and trusts. The great number of collections and the various forms of support are the reason why most of these collections have remained quite small. To counterbalance this fact and to guarantee sufficient supply of research literature for Far Eastern studies in Germany, the acquisition is financially supported by the German Research Association (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG). As part of their special acquisitions program and as a national resource for East Asian literature an efficient library centre has been created in the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz (State Library of the Prussian Cultural Foundation). Additional funds have been made by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft for joint organizational efforts of libraries to improve distribution throughout the nation and abroad.

A survey into the situation of the larger East Asian collections in the German Federal Republic showed, that a conception for cooperation was lacking. ¹⁾ In March 1975 the Library Section of the German Research Association invited representatives of Far Eastern sciences as well as of the most important East Asian collections to a meeting about the improvements in acquisition of and access to East Asian materials.

I would like to report, which effects the ensuing suggestions have made upon the present supply of material.

There was no widespread knowledge where to find Far Eastern materials on special subjects. That's why the German Research Association advised on compelling a Guidebook to Far Eastern Collections with detailed descriptions of those collections thus also providing the possibility to coordinate new acquisitions. This guidebook was first published in 1978. ²⁾ The facts given in this topography do not describe sufficiently enough the existing holdings. There is only one way to make the collections really accessible: to compile a complete and detailed catalogue of all material available.

To give an idea of the kind of collections available, they should be classified as to 5 types of libraries:

1. There are 4 prominent research libraries with a total stock of about 500.000 volumes and 11.000 periodicals (including 4.800 current periodicals) in Chinese, Japanese and Korean.

2. 30 libraries of Far Eastern departments of 16 universities with approximately 600.000 volumes and about 800 current periodicals.
3. Libraries of museums, but only one Museum of Far Eastern Art, holding about 10.000 volumes.
4. Libraries of research institutions connected with research on East Asia, stocking up to 20.000 volumes.
5. Libraries of research institutions without direct connection to East Asian research.

Among the last mentioned collections there are between 5.000 and 10.000 volumes concerning East Asia, but it is hard to assess the real importance of those books, as they are not centrally catalogued. One can only guess, that among the collections founded in the last century or at the beginning of this century there might be books of special importance.

The next group consists of libraries of research institutions and cultural institutions connected with East Asia. These are, for instance,

The Library of the Max-Planck-Institute for foreign and international civil law (1.550 vols.)

The Library of the Institute for World Economics, Kiel (Central library of economics in the FRG)

The Arnold-Bergstraesser-Institute for cultural research (2.200 vols.)

The Institute of Asian Studies, Hamburg (10.000 vols.)

All these institutions are financed by foundations, scientific associations, by the government of the Federal Republic and by the governments of the federal states.

The holdings of these research institutions are of primary importance, therefore those collections should be made fully accessible.

The 3rd group are the museums and their libraries. The number of museums in the FRG collecting exclusively East Asian objects of art is very small. The largest library among this type of museums is that of the Museum of East Asian Art in Cologne. It was founded in 1913 and its library consists of 10.000 vols. in East Asian languages.

In 1980 a symposium was held in Bonn on "Japanese collections in European Museums".³⁾ This symposium was primarily intended for keepers of the art collections, but for the first time representatives of the main libraries with East Asian collections (The Hague, Munich, Vienna and Berlin) took part, reporting about their collections. This symposium was of equal importance for museum people as well as for librarians. The librarians reported on their efforts to trace collections not yet catalogued and to catalogue and describe them subsequently, and make them generally accessible. They asked the keepers of the museums for support to make their collections concerning to East Asia accessible. And these efforts produced results: The first catalogue of Japanese manuscripts and early printed books in German libraries, compiled by Eva Kraft, was published in 1981 in the series "Catalogues of Oriental Manuscripts in Germany"⁴⁾ (This compilation and publication is financed by the DFG). Meanwhile Eva Kraft has compiled two further catalogues of Japanese manus-

cripts. Her first volume described material in the possession of the Prussian Cultural Foundation in Berlin, the second and third volumes relate to manuscripts and early printed books in various libraries and museums in Munich, Bonn, Cologne, Bremen and Hamburg. Altogether about 1.800 manuscripts and rare prints are made accessible. 5)-6)

4. Special libraries of Far Eastern departments attached to universities.

Presently, there are 30 seminaries concentrating on Far Eastern research and lecturing attached to 16 universities, the oldest being the Seminary for Language and Culture of China (founded 1912), of Japan (1919) in Hamburg and the Seminary of Oriental Studies in Bonn (1926), where in 1930 a new chair on Japanology was founded. After the 2nd World War 11 new chairs for Sinology and 10 for Japanology were founded. 7)

All these institutions had to be supplied with special libraries meant for internal use of their staff and students. Obviously all the standard literature, lexica and encyclopedias can there be found plus books for the individual research program. Any change within the faculty can, therefore, alter the direction of acquisitions.

Surveys carried out lately among the seminaries for Sinology, Japanology and Koreanology show the following inventory of total scope of the libraries: 420.000 vols. in Chinese 8), about 158.000 vols. in Japanese 9) and about 10.000 vols. in Korean 10).

Obviously there are a great number of identical books in various libraries.

The sizes of these libraries differ considerably. Most Chinese books are to be found in Hamburg (75.000), most Japanese in Bochum (45.000). 11)

Koreanology is represented in few universities only. Books in Korean language are as follows: 3.000 vols. at the University in Bochum, 2.500 vols. in Bonn.

Unfortunately these libraries are mostly run by temporary staff: students or sometime academics of the seminary. The frequent change and the lack of specified knowledge accounts for the fact, that the catalogues are of rather varied quality. However, brief comments about specialities within these collections can be found in the books "Japanese Studies in Europe" published by the Japan Foundation and in the before mentioned topographies of Pretzell, Ma and Wormit. The holdings of the seminaries are mostly for local use only. The total of almost 600.000 volumes and 1.000 current periodicals of these libraries are unfortunately not to be found in the centralized catalogues of the seven lending regions.

Efforts are made to complete a centralized catalogue for all East Asian materials at the Staatsbibliothek Preußischer Kulturbesitz similar to the one existing there already for Oriental materials. It will be published next year as a printed catalogue.

The four most important libraries with large Far Eastern collections are the research libraries in Berlin, Munich, Göttingen and Hannover.

The oldest collection of literature of and about East Asia is to be found in the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek (Bavarian State Library) in Munich, which was founded in 1558. The Bavarian Ducal House of Wittelsbach had been assisting the mission of Jesuits in China and Japan as early as the 17th century. In the middle of the 18th century the library was able to acquire extensive and important Chinese stocks and so to build up the largest collection of Sinica in Europe at that time. ¹²⁾

The systematic acquisition of literature from and about Japan and Korea dates from only 1945. Since then efforts are being made to complement the precious old holdings by buying antiquarian books. Some especially noteworthy old editions have been acquired during the last few years. Last year, however, the state of Bavaria granted only 325.000 DM. , – too little to buy precious antiquarian books and the ever increasing contemporary book production simultaneously.

The largest collection of Eastasiatica within the Federal Republic is kept by the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz (State Library of Prussian Cultural Foundation) in Berlin–West. The library is based on a foundation by the Elector Duke Frederic–William I in 1661.

From the very beginning there was a keen interest in Chinese books, and as early as 1685 a printed catalogue was published by the then keeper of the Chinese collection. Interest was focused on China only, as Japan was not accessible for foreigners at that time. It was only 200 years later after the first Prussian expedition to East Asia in 1860/61 that the Japan collection came into existence. ¹³⁾

World War II interrupted the hitherto very successful activities, when the extensive collection was torn apart. Those books which had been evacuated to West–Germany during wartime formed the starting base of the library: ca. 25.000 vols. (= 1%) of the former Sinica and ca. 600 vols. (= 40%) of the former Japonica. By extensive acquisition the library has since accumulated the largest collection within the Federal Republic.

Funding originates from the Federal Republic and proportional contributions ~~from~~^{of} all its states. In 1985, 562.000 DM. were spent for Eastasiatica of which 75% have been contributed by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (390.000 DM) out of its funds earmarked for East– and Southeastasian literature, thus building up an important collection for the whole nation.

The third library with a large Far Eastern collection is the Niedersächsische Staats– und Universitätsbibliothek (State– and University library of Lower Saxony) in Göttingen, founded in 1734. Literature of and about Asia has been collected systematically and to a considerable extent, amounting to ca. 45.000 vols of oriental philosophy, religion and history published before 1945 and to a further 33.000 vols published after this date. The library is founded by the State of Lower Saxony.

All three libraries mentioned are mainly orientated towards humanities as regards their acquisition tendency. After the war an ever increasing importance of science and technology created the desire for a new specialised library. In 1959 the Technische Informationsbibliothek (Library for Technological Information) was founded in Hannover concentrating first and foremost on periodicals. Collection of relevant periodicals published in East Asian languages commenced in 1962/63, totalling at present 2.250 periodicals of which ca. 250 are in Chinese, ca. 1900 in Japanese and ca. 100 in Korean.

During the last ten years an attempt was made to reach a closer cooperation between the libraries, in order to improve the supply with Far Eastern materials. These efforts were rendered difficult by the decentralised organisation of the German library system. Realizing efficient libraries to be a necessity for the advance of research, the German Research Association started to support corresponding endeavours. Emphasis was given to the support of joint library programs to overcome the regional structure. The following were the most important coordinating programs in the field of East Asian studies:

- Establishment of a centre for East- and Southeast Asian literature by increased acquisition at the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz (Special acquisition program for East and Southeast Asia).
- Cataloguing of Far Eastern collections to give easy access to materials and publishing of printed catalogues for books and periodicals.
- Current information for scholars about the activities of the library by publishing accession-lists and current awareness services.
- Cataloguing of special collections connected with Far Eastern research (for example manuscripts, rare printed books, etc.)

At a meeting in 1978, the sub-committee of the DFG recommended the publication of the catalogues of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek and the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz in order to obtain the basis of an improvement of literature supply in East Asian studies and to have a provisional solution before the compilation of a u n i o n c a t a l o g u e comprehensive of all Eastasiatica. The holdings of both libraries are complementary of each other because of divergent historical emphasis. The catalogue of the East Asian collection of the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz has already appeared in print in 19 volumes. ¹⁴⁾ Eastasiatica are filed in a single alphabet by using transcription systems to convert the original into latin script. The original writing is added also. Acquisition lists, published irregularly, provide information on latest acquisitions.

The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek took to a publication of its catalogue in three parts, covering Chinese, Japanese, and Korean holdings respectively. Since the historical holdings of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek had not been catalogued, the DFG provided additional resources for a related project. Printing of the Sinica catalogue has commenced. Presently, three volumes are available. ¹⁵⁾

The working project on cataloguing Japanese m a n u s c r i p t s and printed books was already mentioned within the context of library holdings of museum libraries. The volumes

completed so far cover the most important holdings of old Japonica in the FRG. 4)-6)

As for cataloguing of periodicals in Germany, a data base containing holdings of national and international periodicals has been built up since 1971. 16) The Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz and the German Library Institute are cooperating in this project. Holdings of East Asian periodicals are gradually being integrated into the data base, and since 1983 the East Asian Department of the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz has been checking reports on holdings in German libraries before storing them in the data base in order to achieve their unification.

Until all holdings will be catalogued, libraries with most comprehensive periodical stocks are publishing their catalogues to provide at least provisional reference instruments. So far periodical holdings of the East Asian collection of the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz have been published in a main catalogue and two supplements. 17) A new edition, based on electronic data processing, is being planned.

The Technische Informationsbibliothek Hannover published a computer print of its East Asian scientific periodicals. 18) The libraries of Far Eastern departments of the universities in Bonn, Heidelberg, and Cologne have worked in the same direction by publishing catalogues of their holdings of East Asian periodicals. 19)

As a source of bibliographic reference (without giving locations) on East Asian related new publications in German speaking countries the "Deutsche Fernostbibliographie" was launched. 20) The "Bibliography of Chinese Studies" (at first only a supplement to the "Deutsche Fernostbibliographie", and published separately since 1982) indexes 60 Chinese, English, and German periodicals. 21) Drawing on German, English, French, and American library holdings a bibliography was begun to document German speaking literature on Japan between the 15th century and 1980. 22) Further bibliographic works related to East Asia are in preparation. Much of it is based on the holdings of the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz, whose holdings are primarily evaluated.

Cooperation was also attempted on the international level, to allow for an optimal evaluation of prevailing sources. The "Contemporary China Institute" (Cambridge) compiled a bibliography of Chinese newspaper and periodical holdings in European libraries. 23) It is especially valuable since libraries in the Soviet-Union and Eastern European countries have been included. At a conference in Berlin in 1985, the Association of Librarians of Sinological Libraries in Europe proposed a new and enlarged edition of this bibliography, employing electronic data processing.

Parallel to this project, a union catalogue (providing locations) of Korean periodicals in Europe is in progress. 24)

The collections described in library catalogues, and union catalogues or these announced in accessions lists should be made accessible to German and foreign scholars as best as possible. The actual situation of the German interlibrary loan system was, in many ways, not up

to these demands. Therefore, in 1974, the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz organized a special interlibrary loan agreement with the institutions of Far Eastern studies, which are mostly excluded from the German Interlibrary Loan System by the established rules. By this arrangement they are enabled to send their requests directly to the national centre for Far Eastern materials at the Staatsbibliothek in Berlin. This prevents unnecessary requests at the 7 regional union catalogues, which do not include Far Eastern books, but which are, in many cases, called upon against the rules.

Institutions in Germany or other European countries can take part in this interlibrary loan agreement and so use the collection of the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz. To distinguish these requests from those of the German or International Interlibrary Loan System formulars with a different colour are used. At the moment 31 German institutions and 5 libraries from Switzerland, Austria, the Netherlands, and Sweden have joined the arrangement as users. The Bavarian State library in Munich has joined the system as a giving partner.

Thus we may say, that in the Federal Republic of Germany we are trying, with the help of the German Research Association, to build up a national resource for Far Eastern literature at the State Library of the Prussian Cultural Foundation to overcome the insufficient resources of Far Eastern materials due to the decentralized development of libraries in Germany.

In order to bring together all the information about existing collections, efforts are being made to complete a central catalogue for East Asian materials and also to improve distribution of books and periodicals on a national and international level. By means of publishing printed catalogues for books and periodicals as well as for rare materials, for example manuscripts and early printed books from Asia, and by establishing a special loan system we do our best to help researchers in Germany and also from abroad. We hope that in future a closer collaboration with other libraries might be possible, not only in Europe but also with Far Eastern countries, so that our materials might be useful for as many researchers as possible in the East and West.

Notes

- 1) "Zur Situation der ostasienbezogenen Bibliotheken in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland", in Wormit, Helga: *Ostasiatische Schriftsysteme und ihre Behandlung aus bibliothekarischer Sicht*. Köln: Bibliothekar-Lehrinstitut des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen 1974. p. 76-88; IX-XXIV.
- 2) Pretzell, Klaus-Albrecht: *Topographie asienkundlicher Schrifttumssammlungen in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und Berlin (West)*. Hamburg 1978. *Korrigenda et addenda*. Hamburg 1979. (Dokumentationsdienst Asien. Asia Documentation Service. Reihe B. Serie B,1.)
- 3) Japan-Sammlungen in Museen Mitteleuropas. — Geschichte, Aufbau und gegenwärtige Probleme. Comp. by Josef Kreiner. (Bonner Zeitschrift für Japanologie. Vol. 3. 1981.)
- 4) Kraft, Eva: *Japanische Handschriften und traditionelle Drucke aus der Zeit vor 1868 im Besitz der Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Staatsbibliothek und Staatliche Museen: Kunstbibliothek mit Lipperheidescher Kostümbibliothek, Museum für Ostasiatische Kunst, Museum für Völkerkunde*. Wiesbaden: Steiner Verlag 1982. 386 p. (Verzeichnis der Orientalischen Handschriften in Deutschland. XXVII,1.)
 Kraft, Eva: *Illustrierte Handschriften und Drucke aus Japan. 12.-19. Jahrhundert*. Ausstellungskatalog. Wiesbaden: Steiner Verlag 1981.
 Kraft, Eva; Kitamura, Hiroshi; Sawai Taizo: *Nishi Berurin—bon Otogizoshi: emakishu to kenkyu*. Toyohashi 1981. 240 p. (Mikan kokubun shiryō IV, 10).
- 5) Kraft, Eva: *Japanische Handschriften und traditionelle Drucke aus der Zeit vor 1868 in München*. Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Deutsches Museum, Münchener Stadtmuseum—Puppentheatermuseum, Staatliches Museum für Völkerkunde, Universitätsbibliothek (587 titles in 2.450 vols.). Wiesbaden: Steiner 1986 (Verzeichnis der Orientalischen Handschriften in Deutschland. XXVII,2.)
- 6) Vol. 3 describes the holdings of:
 Bremen: Kunsthalle; Überseemuseum
 Bonn: Collection Trautz at Japanologisches Seminar der Universität Bonn
 Hamburg: Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe; Museum für Völkerkunde
 Köln: Museum für Osasiatische Kunst
- 7) Sinology: München 1946, Berlin (West) 1954, Frankfurt 1960, Heidelberg 1962, Freiburg 1963, Tübingen 1963, Bochum 1964, Bonn 1964, Würzburg 1965, Erlangen 1968, Trier 1978.
 Japanology: Tübingen 1965, Bonn 1966, Berlin (West) 1967, Bochum 1970, Frankfurt 1972, Marburg 1973, Freiburg 1978, Köln 1978, Erlangen 1982, Göttingen 1983.
- 8) Ma, John T.: *Chinese Collections in Western Europe. Survey of their Technical and Reader's Service*. Zug: Inter Documentation Co. 1985. 90 p. (Bibliotheca asiatica. 18.)
- 9) *Japanese Studies in Europe*. Publ. by The Japan Foundation. Tokyo: Kenkyusha 1985. 427 p. (Directory Series. VII)

- 10) Bloomfield, B.C. & Hickman, Brian: A Preliminary Directory of Library Resources for Korean Studies in Europe. School of Oriental & African Studies, London: 1978. 35 p.
- 11) Chinese: Hamburg (75.000). Bochum (50.000). Bonn (50.000). München (40.000).
Japanese: Bochum (45.000). Hamburg (31.000). Bonn (25.000). Berlin (17.500).
- 12) Dufey, Alfons: Die Japansammlung der Bayerischen Staatsbibliothek. in: Bonner Zeitschrift für Japanologie. 3. 1981. p. 121–129.
- 13) Kraft, Eva: Die Japansammlung der Staatsbibliothek Preußischer Kulturbesitz. in: Bonner Zeitschrift für Japanologie. 3. 1981. p. 111–120.
- 14) Staatsbibliothek Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Berlin (West), Ostasienabteilung: Katalog der Ostasienabteilung. Hrsg. v. Rainer Krempien. — Osnabrück: Biblio Verlag 1983–1985. Vol. 1–11 Titles, Vol. 12–19 Authors.
- 15) Bayerische Staatsbibliothek München, Ostasiensammlung: Katalog der Ostasiensammlung. Catalogue of the Far Eastern Collection. C h i n a. Wiesbaden: Reichert 1984— Vol. 1–3 A–Li 1984–1985.
- 16) Zeitschriftendatenbank (ZDB), West German union catalogue of serials, on-line data base and microfiche edition, succeeds the "Gesamtverzeichnis ausländischer Zeitschriften und Serien" (GAZS) and the "Gesamtverzeichnis deutschsprachiger Zeitschriften und Serien" (GDZS)= Union List of German Language Serials in Libraries of the Federal Republic of Germany including Berlin (West), compiled and edited by Staatsbibliothek Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Abteilung Gesamtkataloge und Dokumentation.
- 17) Staatsbibliothek Preußischer Kulturbesitz Berlin (West), Ostasienabteilung: Zeitschriftenkatalog der Ostasienabteilung. Berlin 1978. Vol. 1.2. Suppl. 1. 1981. Suppl. 2. 1983.
- 18) Universitätsbibliothek der Technischen Universität Hannover und Technische Informationsbibliothek/Ostsprachenabteilung: Verzeichnis ostasiatischer Zeitschriftenkatalog und Reihen. 3.Aufl. Hannover 1980.
- 19) Verzeichnis ostasienskundlicher Zeitschriften in Institutsbibliotheken in Bonn, Heidelberg und Köln (Stand: Juli 1973). Köln: Ostasiatisches Seminar der Universität zu Köln 1974, 247 p.
(Ostasiatisches Seminar: Miscellanea 1.)
- 20) Deutsche Fernostbibliographie. Deutschsprachige Veröffentlichungen über Ost-, Zentral- und Südostasien. Bearb.: Rainer Krempien. 1979–1981 München: Saur 1982–1984 Berlin: Ostasienv Verlag
- 21) Bibliography of Chinese studies: selected articles on China, Chinese English and German; Bearb.: Nieh, Yu-hsi. Berlin: Ostasienv. 1982–1984.
- 22) Japan-Bibliographie. Verzeichnis deutschsprachiger japanbezogener Veröffentlichungen mit Standortnachweisen. Bibliography of Japan. Union Catalog of German Language Publications on Japan. Reihe A, Monographien und Zeitschriften B.1: 1477–1920 Bearb. v. Wolfgang Hadamitzky u. Marianne Kocks. Berlin: Ostasienv. 1987. Bd. 2: 1921–1950 Bd. 3: 1951–1980

- 23) A bibliography of Chinese newspapers and periodicals in European libraries
New York usw.: Cambridge University Press 1975. 1025 p.
- 24) Adami, Norbert R.: Standortkatalog koreanischer Zeitschriften in Europa.
Union Catalogue of Korean Periodicals in Europe. Berlin: Staatsbibliothek
Preußischer Kulturbesitz.
1. (Großbritannien, Leiden, Wien, Prag, Berlin (West).) 1981
 2. (Paris, Bochum, Hamburg) in preparation.